

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
White River Field Office  
73544 Hwy 64  
Meeker, CO 81641

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

**NUMBER:** CO-110-2005-094-EA

**CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER** (optional): COD-035679

**PROJECT NAME:** Pig launcher/receiving site well pad T35X-11G

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** T2S, R97W, NESW sec.11, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

**APPLICANT:** ExxonMobil Oil Corporation

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:**

**Proposed Action:** The applicant proposes to construct a 200' x 200' pad extension (0.92 ac.) on the northeast corner of the existing well pad T35X-11G. The 16" gas gathering line and 4" produced water gathering line would both enter this location and tie into above ground facilities. The applicant would install a pig launcher/receiver, slug catcher, and 400 barrel tank to contain liquids during the pigging operation on the 16" gas gathering line. The 4" produced water gathering line would have piping and facilities to allow for the future addition of a pig launcher.

**No Action Alternative:** No extension of the pad would be constructed and no pigging operations would be installed.

**NEED FOR THE ACTION:** To respond to request by applicant to expand well pad.

**PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW:** The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Number/Page: Pages 2-5 thru 2-6

Decision Language: Make federal oil and gas resources available for leasing and development in a manner that provides reasonable protection for other resource values.

## **AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES / MITIGATION MEASURES:**

**STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC LAND HEALTH:** In January 1997, Colorado Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approved the Standards for Public Land Health. These standards cover upland soils, riparian systems, plant and animal communities, threatened and endangered species, and water quality. Standards describe conditions needed to sustain public land health and relate to all uses of the public lands. Because a standard exists for these five categories, a finding must be made for each of them in an environmental analysis. These findings are located in specific elements listed below:

### **CRITICAL ELEMENTS**

#### **AIR QUALITY**

*Affected Environment:* The proposed action is not located near any special designation air sheds or non-attainment areas.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* Pad extension and construction of the pig launcher/receiving site will have little affect on air quality in the area with exception to dry periods when human disturbance increased fugitive dust levels. Removal of ground cover will leave soils exposed to eolian processes until mitigation is complete. Elevated levels of fugitive dust would result with strong winds and increased human activity during dry periods.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* None

*Mitigation:* Revegetate disturbed surfaces not being used for access.

#### **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

*Affected Environment:* The proposed pig launcher location has been inventoried at the Class III (100% pedestrian) level (O'Brien2004, Compliance Dated 12/06/2004) with no new cultural resources reported in the inventory area.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* The proposed action would not impact any known cultural resources.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* There would be no new impacts to cultural resources under the No Action Alternative

*Mitigation:* 1. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- Whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- The mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)
- A timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

2. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

## **INVASIVE, NON-NATIVE SPECIES**

*Affected Environment:* The noxious weeds houndstongue, Russian and spotted knapweed, yellow toadflax, leafy spurge, mullein, Canada and bull thistle are all present in the proposed at or near project area. Their potential for spread and proliferation is directly proportional to the extent and duration of earthen disturbance in the project area. The invasive alien cheatgrass is found throughout the project area primarily on unrevegetated areas of earthen disturbance adjacent to roads and on oil and gas locations and pipelines.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* The principal negative impact over the long term would occur if invasive species or noxious weeds are allowed to establish and proliferate on the disturbed area resulting from pad and facility construction.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* There will be no change from the present situation.

*Mitigation:* The operator will be required to eradicate all noxious and invasive species which occur onsite using materials and methods approved by the Field Manager.

## **MIGRATORY BIRDS**

*Affected Environment:* The project area, which lies adjacent to an existing road and well pad, is dominated by Wyoming big sagebrush with immature pinyon-juniper scattered throughout. Several species of migratory birds fulfill nesting requirements in this community from late May through mid July including vesper's sparrow and green-tailed towhee; both of which are abundant and widely distributed throughout the Resource Area.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* Although earthwork for this project is scheduled to take place during the nesting season, it is unlikely to have considerable negative impacts on breeding birds. Construction activities associated with this project involve less than one acre of disturbance located adjacent to an existing road and well pad. Based on average shrub-steppe nest densities in close proximity to roads, construction activity during the nesting peak may disrupt nesting of 1 pair of birds of higher conservation interest. This level of impact would have no measurable influence on affected populations of migratory birds at any landscape scale

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* There would be no affect on migratory birds under the no action alternative.

*Mitigation:* None

## **THREATENED, ENDANGERED, AND SENSITIVE ANIMAL SPECIES (includes a finding on Standard 4)**

*Affected Environment:* There are no threatened, endangered or sensitive animal species that inhabit or derive important benefit from the area potentially influenced by the proposed action.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* The proposed action would have no conceivable influence on animals listed, proposed, candidate, or petitioned for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Similarly, there are no animals considered sensitive by BLM that would be potentially influenced by this action.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* There would be no conceivable influence on special status species under the no action alternative.

*Mitigation:* None

*Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for Threatened & Endangered species:* The proposed and no action alternatives would have no effective influence on populations or habitat

associated with special status species and would be consistent with the long term maintenance of animal and plant land health standards.

## **WASTES, HAZARDOUS OR SOLID**

*Affected Environment:* There are no known hazardous or other solid wastes on the subject lands. No hazardous materials are known to have been used, stored or disposed of at sites included in the project area.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* No listed or extremely hazardous materials in excess of threshold quantities are proposed for use in this project. While commercial preparations of fuels and lubricants proposed for use may contain some hazardous constituents, they would be stored, used and transported in a manner consistent with applicable laws, and the generation of hazardous wastes would not be anticipated. Solid wastes would be properly disposed of.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* No hazardous or other solid wastes would be generated under the no-action alternative.

*Mitigation:* The applicant shall be required to collect and properly dispose of any solid wastes generated by the proposed actions.

## **WATER QUALITY, SURFACE AND GROUND (includes a finding on Standard 5)**

*Affected Environment:* The proposed action is located above McCarthy Gulch which is a tributary to McKee Gulch (tributary to Piceance Creek). McCarthy Gulch is situated in stream segment 16 of the White River Basin. A review of the Colorado's 1989 Nonpoint Source Assessment Report (plus updates), the 305(b) report, the 303(d) list and the Unified Watershed Assessment was done to see if any water quality concerns have been identified. The State has classified stream segment 16 as "Use Protected" and further designated it beneficial for the following uses: Warm Aquatic Life 2, Recreation 2, and Agriculture. The antidegradation review requirements in the Antidegradation Rule are not applicable to waters designated use-protected. For those waters, only the protection specified in each reach will apply. For this reach, minimum standards for four parameters have been listed. These parameters are: dissolved oxygen = 5.0 mg/l, pH = 6.5 - 9.0, Fecal Coliform = 2000/100 ml, and 630/100 ml E. coli. This segment retained its Recreation Class 2 designation after sufficient evidence was received that a Recreation Class 1a use was unattainable.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* The proposed action will disturb only 0.92 acres at the very top of the McCarthy Gulch catchment area. Adverse environmental consequences are not anticipated due to construction.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* None

*Mitigation:* Revegetate disturbed surfaces not being used for access.

*Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for water quality:* The proposed actions will not compromise water quality in the catchment area.

## **WETLANDS AND RIPARIAN ZONES** (includes a finding on Standard 2)

*Affected Environment:* There are no wetlands or riparian areas that would be affected by the proposed action.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* The proposed action would have no conceivable influence on wetlands or riparian habitat.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* There would be no affect on riparian or wetland habitats under the no action alternative.

*Mitigation:* None

*Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for riparian systems:* The proposed action would have no conceivable influence on the condition or function of riparian or wetland habitats and therefore would have no influence on continued maintenance of associated land health standards.

## **CRITICAL ELEMENTS NOT PRESENT OR NOT AFFECTED:**

No ACEC's, flood plains, prime and unique farmlands, Wilderness, or Wild and Scenic Rivers, threatened, endangered or sensitive plants exist within the area affected by the proposed action. For threatened, endangered and sensitive plant species Public Land Health Standard is not applicable since neither the proposed nor the no-action alternative would have any influence on populations of, or habitats potentially occupied by, special status plants. There are also no Native American religious or environmental justice concerns associated with the proposed action.

## **NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS**

The following elements **must** be addressed due to the involvement of Standards for Public Land Health:

### **SOILS** (includes a finding on Standard 1)

*Affected Environment:* The following data is a product of an order III soil survey conducted by the NRCS. The accompanying table highlights important soil characteristics. A complete summary of this information can be found at the White River Field Office.

ID	Soil Number	Soil Name	Slope	Ecological site	Salinity	Run Off	Erosion Potential	Bedrock
33	33	Forelle loam	3-8%	Rolling Loam	<2	Medium	Moderate	>60

*33-Forelle loam* is a deep, well drained soil found on terraces and uplands. It formed in eolian and alluvial material derived dominantly from sedimentary rock. Areas are irregular in shape and are 20 to 600 acres in size. The native vegetation is mainly low shrubs and grasses. Effective rooting depth is 60 inches or more. Included in this unit are small areas of Patent loam, Piceance fine sandy loam, Work loam, Yamac loam, and Zoltay clay loam. Included areas make up about 15 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another.

Permeability of this Forelle soil is moderate. Available water capacity is high. Runoff is medium, and the hazard of water erosion is moderate. If this unit is used for urban development, the main limitations are low soil strength, the potential for shrinking and swelling, and the hazard of frost action. The possibility of settlement can be minimized by compacting the building site before construction is begun. If buildings are constructed on this unit, properly designing foundations and footings and diverting runoff away from buildings help to prevent structural damage because of shrinking and swelling. Access roads should be designed to provide adequate cut-slope grade, and drains are needed to control surface runoff and keep soil losses to a minimum.

Typically, the surface layer is grayish brown channery loam about 5 inches thick. The next layer is very channery loam about 4 inches thick. The underlying material is extremely flaggy light loam 7 inches thick. Hard sandstone is at a depth of 16 inches. Depth to sandstone ranges from 10 to 20 inches.

Included in this unit are small areas of Blazon channery loam, Forelle loam, Moyerson stony clay loam, Piceance loam, Redcreek fine sandy loam, and Yamac loam. Also included are small areas of soils that are similar to this Rentsac soil but are less than 10 inches deep and small areas of Rock outcrop. Included areas make up about 20 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* Construction of the pad extension would temporarily expose soils to erosional processes. However, the amount of surface disturbance is relatively minor and should have no adverse environmental impacts.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* None

*Mitigation:* When constructing access to pig launcher/receiving pad allow for appropriate drainage at necessary locations. After construction is complete, exposed surfaces not being used for access should be revegetated to reduce soil erosion.

*Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for upland soils:* The proposed action will reduce soil permeability by increasing compaction. However, based on the minimal amount of surface disturbance and the lack of drainage area above the site, soil health will not be compromised.

## VEGETATION (includes a finding on Standard 3)

*Affected Environment:* The project occurs contiguous to an existing well location. The adjacent vegetation is mixed pinyon-juniper and Wyoming big sagebrush.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* The principal impact to vegetation will be complete removal of vegetation on the project site and the earthen disturbance associated with it. In terms of plant community composition, structure and function, the principal negative impact over the long term would occur if invasive species or noxious weeds are allowed to establish and proliferate on the disturbed area resulting from pad and facility construction.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* There will be no change from the present situation.

*Mitigation:* Promptly recontour and revegetate all disturbed areas using Native Seed mix # 3. The operator will be required to eradicate all noxious and invasive species which occur onsite using materials and methods approved by the Field Manager.

3	Western wheatgrass (Rosanna)	2	Gravelly 10"-14", Pinyon/Juniper Woodland, Stony Foothills, 147 (Mountain Mahogany)
	Bluebunch wheatgrass (Secar)	2	
	Thickspike wheatgrass (Critana)	2	
	Indian ricegrass (Rimrock)	1	
	Fourwing saltbush (Wytana)	1	
	Utah sweetvetch	1	
Alternates: Needle and thread, globemallow			

*Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities* (partial, see also Wildlife, Aquatic and Wildlife, Terrestrial): Upland plant communities in the project area currently meet the Standard and can be expected to do so following project implementation.

## WILDLIFE, AQUATIC (includes a finding on Standard 3)

*Affected Environment:* There are no aquatic habitats affected by the proposed action.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* The proposed action would have no conceivable influence on aquatic wildlife or habitat.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* There would be no affect on aquatic wildlife or associated habitats under the no action alternative.

*Mitigation:* None

*Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities* (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Terrestrial): The proposed action would have no conceivable influence on



the condition or function of aquatic wildlife or associated habitats and therefore would have no influence on continued maintenance of associated land health standards.

### **WILDLIFE, TERRESTRIAL** (includes a finding on Standard 3)

*Affected Environment:* The project area, which lies adjacent to an existing road and well pad, is located in normal winter range for elk and severe winter range for mule deer. Vegetation in the area is dominated by Wyoming big sagebrush and young pinyon-juniper. While raptors such as red-tailed hawks may opportunistically forage throughout the area, sagebrush and immature pinyon-juniper do not provide suitable substrate for raptor nesting. No narrowly distributed or highly specialized species or sub specific populations are known to occur in the project area.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* It is unlikely the construction of the pig launcher/receiving site will have any long-term negative impacts on big game. Construction activities will involve the removal of less than one acre of vegetation and will be completed outside the critical timeframe with respect to winter timing restrictions for big game. Regarding forage and cover availability for big game and nongame species, the small amount of surface disturbance immediately adjacent to an existing well access road and well pad would be inconsequential in scale and duration.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* There would be no affect on terrestrial wildlife or associated habitats under the no action alternative.

*Mitigation:* None

*Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities* (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Aquatic): The project site meets the land health standard for terrestrial communities. Construction of the pig launcher/receiving site as proposed would have no functional influence on attributes of community health.

**OTHER NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS:** For the following elements, only those brought forward for analysis will be addressed further.

Non-Critical Element	NA or Not Present	Applicable or Present, No Impact	Applicable & Present and Brought Forward for Analysis
Access and Transportation		X	
Cadastral Survey	X		
Fire Management	X		
Forest Management	X		
Geology and Minerals	X		
Hydrology/Water Rights		X	
Law Enforcement		X	

Non-Critical Element	NA or Not Present	Applicable or Present, No Impact	Applicable & Present and Brought Forward for Analysis
Noise		X	
Paleontology			X
Rangeland Management		X	
Realty Authorizations	X		
Recreation		X	
Socio-Economics		X	
Visual Resources			X
Wild Horses	X		

## PALEONTOLOGY

*Affected Environment:* The proposed pig launcher facility is located in an area mapped as the Uinta Formation (Tweto 1979) which the BLM has classified as a Condition I formation, meaning it is known to produce scientifically important fossil resources.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* If it becomes necessary to excavate into the underlying bedrock formation to construct the facility there is a potential to impact scientifically noteworthy fossil resources.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* There would be no new impacts to fossil resources under the No Action Alternative.

*Mitigation:* 1. If paleontological materials (fossils) are uncovered during project activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities that might further disturb such materials, and contact the authorized officer (AO). The operator and the authorized officer will consult and determine the best option for avoiding or mitigating paleontological site damage.

2. If it becomes necessary to excavate into the underlying bedrock formation to construct the pig launcher facility a paleontological monitor shall be present for such excavations.

## VISUAL RESOURCES

*Affected Environment:* The proposed action is located within a VRM class III area. The objective of this class is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

*Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action:* The proposed action would be adjacent to a well pad and the only above ground facilities would be some pipe and valves for the pig launch. By painting the pig launch Juniper Green to match the production facilities on the adjacent well pad and surrounding woody vegetation, the proposed action would not dominate

the view of the casual observer. The level of change to the characteristic landscape would be low and the standards of the VRM III classification would be retained.

*Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative:* There would be no additional impacts.

*Mitigation:* Paint all above ground facilities Juniper Green.

**CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY:** Cumulative impacts from oil and gas development were analyzed in the White River Resource Area Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS) completed in June 1996. Current development, including the proposed action, has not exceeded the foreseeable development analyzed in the PRMP/FEIS.

#### **REFERENCES CITED:**

O'Brien, Patrick K.

2004 A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory for the Proposed Exxon-Mobil Corporation PCU#T35X-11G Pig Launcher in Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Eagle, Colorado.

Tweto, Ogden

1979 Geologic Map of Colorado. United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, Reston, Virginia.

**PERSONS / AGENCIES CONSULTED: None**

**INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Area of Responsibility</b>
Nate Dietrich	Hydrologist	Air Quality
Tamara Meagley	Natural Resource Specialist	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
Tamara Meagley	Natural Resource Specialist	Threatened and Endangered Plant Species
Michael Selle	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources Paleontological Resources
Mark Hafkenschiel	Rangeland Management Specialist	Invasive, Non-Native Species, Vegetation, Rangeland Management
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Migratory Birds
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Animal Species, Wildlife
Bo Brown	Hazmat Collateral	Wastes, Hazardous or Solid
Nate Dietrich	Hydrologist	Water Quality, Surface and Ground Hydrology and Water Rights
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Wetlands and Riparian Zones
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Wilderness
Nate Dietrich	Hydrologist	Soils
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife Terrestrial and Aquatic
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Access and Transportation
Ken Holsinger	Natural Resource Specialist	Fire Management
Robert Fowler	Forester	Forest Management
Paul Daggett	Mining Engineer	Geology and Minerals
Penny Brown	Realty Specialist	Realty Authorizations
Chris Ham	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation
Keith Whitaker	Natural Resource Specialist	Visual Resources
Valerie Dobrich	Natural Resource Specialist	Wild Horses

# **Finding of No Significant Impact/Decision Record (FONSI/DR)**

**CO-110-2005-094-EA**

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)/RATIONALE:** The environmental assessment and analyzing the environmental effects of the proposed action have been reviewed. The approved mitigation measures (listed below) result in a Finding of No Significant Impact on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not necessary to further analyze the environmental effects of the proposed action.

**DECISION/RATIONALE:** It is my decision to approve expansion of well pad T35X-11G for associated facilities, as described in the proposed action with the mitigation measures listed below.

## **MITIGATION MEASURES:**

1. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- Whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- The mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)
- A timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

2. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains,

funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

3. Promptly recontour and revegetate all disturbed areas using Native Seed mix # 3 as listed in the table below. The operator will be required to eradicate all noxious and invasive species which occur onsite using materials and methods approved by the Field Office Manager.

SPECIES (VARIETY)	LBS. PLS/ACRE
Western wheatgrass (Rosanna)	2
Bluebunch wheatgrass (Secar)	2
Thickspike wheatgrass (Critana)	2
Indian ricegrass (Nezpar)	1
Fourwing saltbush (Wytana)	1
Utah sweetvetch	1

4. Distribute topsoil evenly over the location and prepare a seedbed by disking or ripping. Drill seed on contour at a depth no greater than 1/2 inch. In areas that cannot be drilled, broadcast at double the seeding rate and harrow seed into the soil.

5. Use seed that is certified and free of noxious weeds. Seed certification tags must be submitted to the Field Office Manager within 30 days of seeding.

6. When constructing access to pig launcher/receiving pad allow for appropriate drainage at necessary locations. After construction is complete, exposed surfaces not being used for access should be revegetated to reduce soil erosion.

7. If paleontological materials (fossils) are uncovered during project activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities that might further disturb such materials, and contact the authorized officer (AO). The operator and the authorized officer will consult and determine the best option for avoiding or mitigating paleontological site damage.

8. If it becomes necessary to excavate into the underlying bedrock formation to construct the pig launcher facility a paleontological monitor shall be present for such excavations.

9. Paint all above ground facilities Juniper Green.

**NAME OF PREPARER:** Keith Whitaker

**NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:** Caroline Hollowed

**SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:** Kent C. Walter  
Field Manager

**DATE SIGNED:** 5/18/05

**ATTACHMENTS:** Location map of the proposed action.

**Location of Proposed Action**  
**CO-110-2005-094-EA**

